

Message Text

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TO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

USCINCSO

XMT AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 123760

FOLLOWING REPEAT BUENOS AIRES 3719 ACTION SECSTATE DTD 19 MAY

QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 3719

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OAS, AR

SUBJECT: FONMIN OFFICIAL REMARKS ON IAHRM MEETING

1. MINISTER JUAN CARLOS ARLIA, DEPUTY COORDINATOR FOR FOREIGN POLICY AT THE FONMINISTRY, SPOKE TO EMBOFF MAY 18 ABOUT CURRENT MEETING OF THE INTERAAMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION IN WASHINGTON. ARLIA SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THAT AMCIT NENBER TGINAS FARER (PHONETIC) WAS CONSIDERING PROPOSING THAT THE IAHRM INVESTIGATE ARGENTINA FOR ALLEGED HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS. ARLIA SAID THE IAHRM HAD OFFICIALLY PRESENTED TO ARGENTINA 22 CASES OF ALLEGED HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AND THAT 11 OF THE CASES HAD BEEN SATISFACTORILY ANSWERED AND CLOSED. THAT RECORD WOULD NOT JUSTIFY AN IAHRM INVESTIGATION OF ARGENTINA, ACCORDING TO ARLIA, WHO SUGGESTED FARER HAD POLITICAL OR PUBLIC RELATIONS MOTIVES. ARLIA SAID HE
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UNDERSTOOD THAT IAHRM MEMBERS DID NOT REPRESENT THE GOVERNMENTS OF THEIR COUNTRIES, BUT ASKED UNOFFICIALLY THAT THE EMBASSY INFORM WASHINGTON OF GOA CONCERN OVER A POSSIBLY RASH AND UN-FRIENDLY ACT BY MR. FARER. HE ADDED THAT HE UNDERSTOOD FROM GOA TALKS WITH MS. DERIAN, PRESIDENT VIDELA'S MEETING WITH ASST. SECRETARY TODMAN AND OTHER RECENT PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY US OFFICIALS THAT THE USG WAS NOT SEEKING CONFRONTATION OVER

HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES; TO THE CONTRARY, IT SOUGHT TO MAINTAIN
OPEN COMMUNICATION, UNDERSTANDING AND A MUTUAL EFFORT TO FIND
SOLUTIONS TO SOME OF THE SEVERE PROBLEMS FACED BY ARGENTINA.
MR. FARER'S MOVE WOULD NOT BE VIEWED AS CONSISTENT WITH THAT
UNDERSTANDING, ARLIA SAID, NOR WOULD ARGENTINA CONCEDE TO ANY
REQUESTS OR DEMANDS THAT WOULD INFRINGE UPON ITS NATIONAL
SOVEREIGNTY.

2. COMMENT: EMBOFF MADE NO COMMENT OR COMMITMENT ON ISSUE. WE
WOULD APPRECIATE BEING KEPT INFORMED OF HOW THIS ISSUE IS
PLAYED OUT IN IAHC.
CHAPLIN UNQTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

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